DECLASSIFIED

FRIDAY
OCTOBER 30, 1953

Not much trouble seems to have accumulated in the office during my short absence.

Stan Cleveland had seen some of the Dutch and threw further light on their views regarding the creation of a common market.

E. came down for lunch and we had wonderful hamburgers in the snack bar downstairs.

This afternoon Eugène d'Erbstein, with a letter of introduction from Preston Goodfellow, called on me. I had met him in Washington when he was an engineer representing French interests concerned with a project to increase the water supply of Paris. He is Russian by origin but naturalized in the United States. A few days ago while he was on a business trip he received orders from the Ministry of the Interior to leave the country. He applied to me to ascertain with whom at the Embassy he should take up his case. Bob Miner turned him over to John Wood.

Ridge Knight came in and we went over various political questions. Concerning him, I wrote this afternoon to Doug MacArthur a follow-up letter to that I had written last week to Livie Merchant, advocating Ridge's appointment as Deputy Chief of Mission in Brussels when Hugh Millard retires from his position there at the end of the year. Although I had not mentioned the matter to André de Staercke, he told me the other night how crucial he considered this position and how important it was that it should be filled by an experienced Foreign Service Officer.

Barrett McGurn of the Herald Tribune told me he was disturbed about the excitement aroused over reports that the "new look" to be given U. S. military plans by the Joint Chiefs of Staff would probably result in the withdrawal of a considerable number of American troops from Europe. I explained my own

DECLASSIFIED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY CRC DATE 7-1-81
□or XDS□EXT. DATE
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS □
DECLASSIFIED☑ RELEASABLE☑
RELEASE DENIED□
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

DECLASSIFIED

feelings on the subject and said I hoped he would play down this story since I b[illegible] the storm aroused over it had at least for the time being spent most o[illegible] force.

Donald Downes paid me a visit. His book has gone into a third edition in England and in the United States seems already to have involved him in fierce criticism by some of Edgar Hoover's friends. This does not surprise me for his attacks on the FBI were direct and bitter. Donald himself appeared in good physical condition. He is sporting a grizzled beard and, as customary, is full of explosive ideas. It seems he lately fell afoul of the Italian Government and has been accused in one place or another of being a Communist. However, he has now been authorized to return to Italy where he expects to write a cook book. As he observed, this is a far cry from his activities in early life when he was a New England school teacher.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY CEC DATE 7-1-81

E.O. or XDS EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS
DECLASSIFIED RELEASABLE
RELEASE DENIED
FA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

DECLASSIFIED